

2018 Annual Action Plan

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The City of Charlotte and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Regional Housing Consortium's Annual Action Plan identifies the City's community development needs and outlines a comprehensive and coordinated strategy for addressing these needs. It serves as the application for funding for the following federal entitlement programs that serve low and moderate income families;

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnership (HOME)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA)

Overview

The City of Charlotte is experiencing strong growth and immigration. The job and real estate markets of the Charlotte Metropolitan area are healthy resulting in higher real estate prices. Unfortunately the benefits of this economic conditions are not shared equally; over 71,000 households in Charlotte earn less than \$32,100 a year. Households with this level of income struggle to find decent, affordable housing and housing cost crowds out spending on daily living expenses such as food and transportation.

The need for housing for households at lower income levels remains strong, particularly households with special needs such as members with developmental disabilities or those living with HIV/AIDS. Recent Department of Housing and Urban Development data indicates a need for over 34,000 housing units affordable to families at or below 50% of median area income. Housing needs are expected to intensify as real estate forecasts indicate market pressures will allow higher pricing on both rental units and for-sale housing. Along with housing, community partners continue to voice the need for community investments that improve community related infrastructure, sustain existing housing stock and increase economic opportunities.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The City of Charlotte's plan builds off the successes of past plans and identifies nine goals for the year's activities:

1. Provide temporary rental assistance
2. Finance permanent supportive rental housing
3. Provide opportunities for homeownership
4. Provide programs to support persons with HIV/AIDS
5. Increase the supply of affordable rental housing
6. Improve existing housing stock
7. Support facilities and programs for the homeless
8. Increase neighborhood sustainability
9. Promote business growth and a robust workforce

Some goals will be accomplished through continued funding of the City's housing rehabilitation programs and the HouseCharlotte downpayment assistance program. Other goals will be accomplished by partnering with community agencies to rehabilitate and develop housing, provide emergency utility / rental assistance and support programs that assist families return to self-sufficiency. Ending and preventing homelessness continues to be a particular focus for the Charlotte community and this plan. To assist in reaching this goal, the City will continue to provide support for homeless services agencies through funding of shelter operations, homelessness prevention and the provision of rental subsidies.

Approval of the Action Plan is a requirement for continued participation in federally funded housing and community development programs. The activities indicated in this plan address three statutory goals set by HUD:

1. Provide Decent Housing
2. Provide A Suitable Living Environments
3. Provide Expanded Economic Opportunities

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

From 2010 to 2015 the City of Charlotte used HUD funding in varied ways to improve the lives of low and moderate income households in Charlotte. The City of Charlotte provided over 1,000 rehabilitated housing units, funded over 800 units of new construction, approved approximately 1,200 loans for

downpayment assistance and funded agencies providing housing counseling, emergency assistance payments, rental assistance and emergency housing services. It also continued support for the ongoing redevelopment of Brightwalk, a mixed income housing community. The City provided job creating economic development loans and supported programs that provide educational enrichment activities for children. As the City of Charlotte grows, the need for these activities continues and services such as these play an important role in creating diverse, healthy and vibrant communities for all Charlotteans.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The City of Charlotte is committed to ensuring all Charlotte-Mecklenburg residents have the opportunity to learn, understand and provide comments regarding City plans. While developing the plan, the City consults with its housing and community development partners. These groups included nonprofit organizations, Carolina's Care Partnership, the Continuum of Care and the Charlotte Housing Authority.

Based on partner feedback, a needs assessment, and market analysis, the City develops a draft plan that is presented at two community forums, one of which was provided in Spanish. The draft plan is now available for 30 days for review and comment online and at Mecklenburg County libraries. Finally, City Council will hold a public hearing prior to approving the plan. This City conducts citizen engagement that results in better plans that more wholly reflect the needs and aspirations of all Charlotteans.

5. Summary of public comments

No comments were submitted.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

Not applicable.

7. Summary

The City of Charlotte, its elected officials and community development practitioners work with diligence to provide all Charlotteans with safe communities and neighborhoods that are healthy and vibrant. The FY2018 Action Plan provides programs and resources to achieve these goals. The plan emphasizes the City's role as a partner in a larger coalition of agencies providing diverse housing and services to the citizens of Charlotte Mecklenburg.